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ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SATELLITES,  
OCTOBER 1953-JANUARY 1954

ALBANIA ADVANCES ECONOMICALLY -- Helsinki, Vapaa Sana, 4 Dec 53

Albania has made remarkable economic progress under Communist control. The development of the country into a modern industrial and agricultural state under the 1951-1955 plan is shown by the following completed construction projects: the Enver Machine Works; the Elbasan Oil Refinery, with a production capacity of 150,000 tons; a copper smelter of 90,000-ton capacity; the Stalin Textile Combine, producing 20 billion meters of textiles annually; a sugar refinery, producing 10,000 tons annually; two electric power plants, with an annual production of 25 billion kilowatt-hours; and 90 kilometers of railroad tracks laid since World War II. Production is increasing at the rate of 25-30 percent annually, as a result of USSR aid in the training of industrial technicians.

POLISH - GDR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PACT -- Helsinki, Helsingin Sanomat, 6 Jan 54

Poland and the GDR entered an agreement under which the GDR will give technical assistance to Poland in the metallurgical, chemical, machine-building, and power industries, as well as in the field of geology. Poland will give the GDR technical assistance in the coal-mining, metallurgical, chemical, construction, shipbuilding, and commercial deep-sea-fishing industries. In addition, both countries will assist each other in the field of light industry.

GDR PROFESSORS TO TEACH AT PRAGUE UNIVERSITY -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 6 Jan 54 (PM edition)

The following four GDR professors have been assigned teaching positions at Prague University: Dr H. Grell, rector of Humboldt University, East Berlin; Dr A. Richter, professor at Dresden Institute of Technology; Dr F. Leutwein, rector of the Freiberg (Saxony) Mining Academy, and Professor Dr R. Hunger of Freiberg, Saxony, a fuel geologist.

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LABOR SHORTAGE IN GDR AGRICULTURE -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 8 Nov 53

The GDR Ministry of Agriculture has expressed its alarm over the decreasing labor force in agriculture. The steadily increasing flight from rural regions and the stepped-up induction of young people into the People's Police have resulted in a catastrophic labor shortage. In a message to the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Agriculture urged a decree to put men and women over 65 years of age to work in agriculture. The outmoded capitalist views of a calm and comfortable old age are no longer justified, the message points out, and men and women of good health can very well work in agriculture and orchard care.

DECLINE IN POLISH AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT SINCE 1947 -- Athens, Le Messenger d' Athenes, 31 Oct 53

The following table shows the number of workers who have left agricultural employment in Poland for industrial work:

1947	329,000
1948	306,000
1949	520,000
1950	430,000
1951	497,000
1952	324,000

Total 2,466,000

HOUSING PLAN FOR RUMANIA -- Paris, Le Journee du Batiment, 9 Dec 53

According to Agerpress, the Rumanian news agency, the Council of Ministers has authorized the allocation of funds to construct cooperative dwellings. Funds will be allotted to individuals on payment of a 10-percent deposit. The construction plans extend over a period of 15 years for rural areas, and 15-20 years for cities. Exemption from Personal-property taxes will be granted for 10 years for houses in rural areas, and for 15 years for houses in the cities.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS IN BUDAPEST -- Tehran, Journal de Tehran, 10 Jan 54

Twelve new apartment developments containing 5,000 apartments have been built in Budapest since August 1953 and hundreds of buildings are being renovated.

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